

Industry Website Found Rochester Airport to be 12th Cheapest in Nation

Rochester, NY- Congresswoman Louise Slaughter (NY-28) today commented on results of a survey by Cheapflights.com that found Greater Rochester International Airport to be the 12th most affordable airport in the nation. Slaughter has long championed reduced airfares to and from the Rochester area.

"For decades I have been battling the problem of overpriced airfares in Western New York so I am pleased to see that the Rochester Airport is ranked the 12th most affordable airport in the nation. This continues a recent trend of progress in reducing airfare for Western New Yorkers," said Slaughter. "However, we cannot stop here. In this time of economic hardship, it's more important than ever that we continue our efforts to reduce airfare for our region, bring in low-cost carriers like Southwest and ensure that Western New York is an affordable and easy destination for residents, businesses and visitors alike."

Slaughter has a long history of working to reduce historically expensive airfares to and from Greater Rochester International Airport.

In March 2011, Slaughter partnered with US Airways to announce temporary reductions on US Airways flights to and from the airport. In addition, Slaughter has met repeatedly with local businesses and representatives of the US Department of Transportation to explore ways to reduce airfares in Western New York. Upon first arriving in Congress, Slaughter was instrumental in adding the Rochester Airport to the Federal Aviation Airport List which allowed the airport to receive millions of dollars in needed upgrades at no cost to taxpayers.

In 1999, she convened an Aviation Competition Listening Session with then Secretary of Transportation Rodney Slater to hear from local and national leaders on the problems and proposed solutions to high airfares plaguing mid-sized communities such as Rochester. This listening session provides a forum to highlight the significant challenges facing Rochester at that time.

Slaughter also lead the effort to convince JetBlue that they should serve the Rochester market

by providing written commitments from Rochester-based corporations that would rely on their service. She also worked closely with federal transportation officials to ensure JetBlue landing and take-off rights at busy airports in New York and around the country. In 2000, Slaughter welcomed JetBlue to Rochester who's low cost competition saved local travelers over \$12.5 million in its first year of service alone, and ushered in a wave of lower fares from not only new carriers like AirTran, but from legacy carriers as well.